The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor according to the industrial, legislative, and political fields, and services other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Samuel Gompers said:

No higher or nobler mission ever fell to the lot of a people than that committed to the working class—a class of which we have the honor to be members.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 3116, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1919. Entered as second-class matter September 26, 1921, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.

WHOLE NO. 2033 — WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer* — VOL. 40, NO. 13

Meany Questions Histadrut Ties to Commie WFTU

Chicago.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany said that the American friends of Histadrut are "perplexed" that Israel's labor organization continues to be a member of the Communist-controlled World Federation of Trade Unions instead of the new anti-Red International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

Mr. Meany spoke of the long friendship and earnest support of the AFL for Israel and Histadrut as a leader of the trade union division of the Chicago Israel Histadrut.

But, he pointed out, "Histadrut, alone, of all the free national trade union centers in the world still holds membership in the Communist-controlled World Federation of Labor."

Mr. Meany said:

"I understand the problem of the new State of Israel, and I understand the problems of Histadrut, which has such an important role in the affairs of Israel. I know that the Jewish trade unionists of Israel are deeply concerned over the plight of the Jews who are now behind the Iron Curtain, and whom the masters of the Kremlin are holding as hostages. We appreciate that the problems of the new republic, which is not yet two years old and which has hostile neighbors, are not easy ones. We can, and we do understand all of that.

"But, while we give these matters the consideration and weight which they merit, we cannot comprehend the Histadrut being silent or neutral about the spread of slave labor into other countries from the modern home of slavery—Communist Russia.

"We cannot understand how the Histadrut can be silent or neutral about the Kremlin's practice of genocide. Nor can we understand how the Histadrut can be neutral when Communist Russia is refusing to permit Jewish workers to migrate to Israel as is their desire and their right.

"Finally, we can find no principle so neutral when Jews in Soviet Russia at the present time are being actively and brutally persecuted!"

"The Histadrut is a democratic, free trade union movement," Mr. Meany said. "It is not sympathetic to communism or any other form of totalitarianism. It is not the auxiliary of the Communist party. Therefore, it is very strange, very inconsistent and—let us be frank—very disturbing when we see the Histadrut refusing to be neutral in the struggle between the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the Kremlin satellite, the WFTU.

"I have gone into this question at great length and I have spoken plainly. We admire the Histadrut and we honor it for all that it has done—for the heroic achievements—during the past 30 years. We want to be sure to continue to share the Histadrut and to keep our friendship thriving.

"As a friend of Israel and as a friend of the Histadrut, I am confident that American labor is not misplacing its faith when it predicts that the democratic labor movement of Israel will soon take its place in the free trade union movement of the earth—the vanguard of peaceful, security-loving humanity.

"The Histadrut is needed in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. The Histadrut belongs in the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions."

Remember Gompers. Buy stamps

$17 to $1

Washington.—Business spends $17 to labor's $1 to influence national legislation.

Tell that to the next guy who screams that labor "spends" to overcome lobbying.

That's the estimate given by the top expert on lobbying, Rep. Frank Buchanan (D., Pa.), of the special House committee investigating lobbying. He said his committee does not plan now to investigate labor or business lobbying.

Mr. Meany urged prompt action on organized labor's activities in behalf of legislation "so that how much money is spent, Mr. Buchanan said."

"In 1949, business reported that it spent $4,000,000 to influence legislation before Congress and labor spent $500,000."

DROPS CONTROLS

London.—All postwar labor controls have been dropped in Britain. The government has discontinued entirely the use of the power of direction. It had been applied almost exclusively to workers in coalmining and agriculture. For others, it had been used only in the case of 9,000,000 vacancies filled through the Ministry of Labor's Employment Exchanges. In the past 18 months not a single worker had been directed

'Hot War' On Reds Declared By Seamen

Washington.—AFL seamen's unions joined with CIO and independent organizations in declaring "hot war" on European Communists trying to slam the flow of Atlantic Pact arms to the free countries.

They also criticized European governments for "trade union stooges" overseas who, they said, were "using violence" and trying to create chaos to nullify the effort of the Marshall Plan and the arms-aid program.

The union presidents, representing 170,000 seamen, met here and drew up a pact in defense of the maritime hiring hall system.

They supported a plea of Omer Berg, Belgian secretary general of the International Transportation Workers Federation, for action by American workers to combat "propaganda" by Communist-dominated European transport unions.

Mr. Berg said that Communist-led unions on the European continent had spread the false word that American seamen opposed the Marshall Plan and the Atlantic Treaty.

"Through this resolution," he said, "we are now declaring hot war on the Communists through all maritime unions."

Bakery Chief

Chicago.—Herman F. Schnitzler is the new president of the AFL Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union. He succeeds Herman Winter who retired.

Dubinsky Sees Hard Fight Ahead With Red WFTU

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for
AFL News Service

New York—David Dubinsky, president of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union, holds that the recently-organized International Confederation of Free Trade Unions "is a categorical repudiation of Communism." The international union is a progressive idea, or that the free system can survive, or anything that will advance the interests of the international working class."

Writing in the April issue of the American Federationist, official AFL publication, a member of the AFL delegation which helped organize the ICFTU, asserted:

"Because representing 50,000,000 workers in more than 50 countries we have set ourselves Bolshevism the arch-enemy of labor. This may well turn out to be the blow that destroys the pretense under which Bolshevism has for several decades made most of its gains—the supposition that it is a friend of the workers of the world."

The ILGWU chieftain lashed out at Franco Spain by declaring that "free labor everywhere must condemn the essential identity of Nazism, Fascism, Franco-ism and Communism" and asserted that "vacillating policies, such as the one recently proposed by our State Department toward Franco Spain, can only create misunderstandings of the American purpose in Europe, the Near East, and even Asia."

Dubinsky warned that the conflict between the free labor movement and the free World Federation of Trade Unions is "bound to grow in intensity and bitterness."

"Both organizations are fighting for the loyalty and faith of the workers in the hearts and souls and minds of peoples, and not merely in the cold recesses of countries. Moscow could not possibly have totalitarian Communism on the rest of the world without first getting a stranglehold on the remaining free labor organizations.

"The Communists will be dangerous enemies of the ICFTU, now the head and front of international labor's resistance. The new international fully realizes the seriousness of the threat. The battle is all the more difficult because the ICFTU is committed full freedom to operate against free trade unions in democratic lands, while the road is heavily barred to the ICFTU in all iron curtain countries."

In addition, Mr. Dubinsky says that in France, Italy and some sections of Asia and Africa the WFTU still holds formidable positions and the communists won by infiltration "during the years when their association with the free unions covered them with a mantle of respectability."

Green-Meany Urge Get That 1,000,000 Members!

Way to Honor Gompers Is to Organize, Says President Green

Washington.—AFL President William Green told AFL organizers that "we can pay no more fitting and appropriate tribute" to Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL, than "by uniting 1,000,000 new trade unionists into the House of Labor."

Mr. Green said all branches of the AFL must cooperate if the goal is to be reached. He said the field is broad and urged the organizers to devote all of their time to the job.

"Though the task is difficult, it is far from impossible," he said. "We can confidently expect to deliver 1,000,000 new members in 1950."

Mr. Green laid down the objective and stated that he does not feel needed to realize it.

"Militant and aggressive teamwork on the part of all parties concerned is indispensable to the attainment of our objective," Mr. Green declared.

"This organizing drive is designed to commemorate the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of Samuel Gompers. We can pay no more fitting and appropriate a tribute to his memory than to bring a million new trade unionists into the House of Labor, which he spent his lifetime in building. The American Federation of Labor is committed to accomplish Gompers and every new member adds to the stature of that commitment.

"In devoting his life to the organization of the American workers, Gompers broke the trail which we are following today. In the centennial year of his birth there is no better way by which we can prove that his memory has not dimmed and that his lessons have been learned and organized."

Mr. Green said all AFL branches must help in the drive. He said:

"I am therefore calling upon you to undertake this task in the highest degree of effort, initiative and ability than has ever been manifested you heretofore.

"We must do everything in our power to extend to all of the unorganized workers of America the opportunity of trade union membership and the benefits which will enable them to be called a good trade unionist in the highest sense of that term. The free workingman can aspire. We must encourage him, encourage and help them organized by giving them service of such quality as to commend them of the reality of the benefits which flow from membership in the AFL.

"The organizer in the field is the spine and sinew of the organizing movement. It is up to you to form the strategy for the organizing campaign drive, and to take labor's message into every town and city in the area. Without your enthusiasm and energy there can be no success in reaching our goal. Each of you should feel yourself personally responsible for the success of this vital undertaking.

"Equally as important as alert and aggressive initiative is the need for the requirement that cooperation be maintained between the organizers, members of the State Federations of Labor, the organizers of the national and international unions, and the representatives of the International Federation of Labor. Coordinated action and absolute teamwork are indispensable."

Mr. Green said the organizing field is broad. He said:

"A wide field for potential organization awaits you. About half of the 50,000,000 workers in industry are eligible for union membership have yet to be organized. Millions more workers are to be found in virtually every trade and industry. Large numbers exist in the various types of food processing industries, the chemical industry, textiles, lumber manufacturing, the metal trades, transportation equipment, and other manufacturing enterprises.

"The great majority of these workers for whom the labor movement membership have yet to be extended are, however, to be found in nonmanufacturing employment and service industries.

"We have hardly more than scratched the surface in the white-collar field. Millions of white-collar workers have suffered severe economic status move from bad to worse solely because of their inability to bargain collectively, on an equal footing, with their employers. A major effort must be made to greatly enlarge the sphere of organization in this area.

"Millions of workers in agricultural and canning industries, wholesale and retail trade, clerical workers in establishments, hotels and restaurants, petroleum and natural gas industries, building service and maintenance, and numerous other fields are in dire need of the protection and advancement which only organization can provide.

"Many of these industries present special problems from an organizational standpoint. They are the ones where will be no sale the Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor is relying upon your ability to undertake this task with all of the vigor and ingenuity that will be needed for its successful completion.

"We are counting upon you to deliver ONE MILLION NEW MEMBERS IN 1950."

Generals of Organizing Drive

Washington.—Harry O'Reilly, AFL director of organizing, and AFL President William Green discuss strategy for winning 1,000,000 new members in 1950 in honor of Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the AFL. Mr. Green told organizers conference that Mr. O'Reilly is "doing a swell job."

Stronger Labor Department Asked By Next May 13

Washington.—President Truman's 21 government reorganization orders, effective March 13 unless rejected by either house of Congress within 60 days or May 13 unless vetoed by vote of a majority of the members of either house of Congress, The AFL favors the Truman Reorganization Plan No. 19, and responsibility for coordination of federal minimum wages and hours legislation affecting federal or federally assisted contracts is placed in the Secretary of Labor by Reorganization Plan No. 14. These two steps will further strengthen the department's authority over standards for governmental programs protecting the welfare of wage earners.

Other important changes, proposed in Reorganization Plan 5, include the establishment of an administrative assistant secretary of labor and transfer to the Secretary of Labor all functions of all other officers of the department and all functions of all agencies of the department to the department, consolidating and strengthening its authority.

Reorganization Plan No. 14 provides for the transfer through the Secretary of Labor of the enforcement by the Wage Appeals Board of decisions included in various statutes relating to federal construction and public works or to construction with federally loaned or guaranteed assistance. The Secretary of Labor is authorized to prescribe appropriate standards, regulations, and procedures for action by contracting agencies concerning compliance with and enforcement of contract provisions. This is intended to assure consistent and effective enforcement of such standards.

Plan No. 19 carries out a specific recommendation of the Hoover Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government by transferring from the FSA to the Department of Labor the Bureau of Employees' Compensation and the Employees' Compensation Appeals Board and their functions. The present staff of approximately 460 employees currently employed in Washington and in the field will transfer to the Department of Labor.

Four major groups of employers would be affected by the plan, including 2,000,000 federal employes, 800,000 employes of contractors and builders, 250,000 industrial employes in the District of Columbia and an estimated 100,000 employes of private contractors engaged in construction in States bases. These workers in 1949 suffered injuries to 1,000 and found of which 50,000 resulted in claims for compensation.

Union Show Plans Own Post Office

Philadelphia.—Installation of a complete working post office which thousands will be able to see how a mail is handled is to be maintained without going astray has been authorized for the Labor Day Industries Show to be held in Convention Hall of all letters mailed there will be hand stamped with a special cachet commemorating the "1950 Union Industries Show."

The show, which will be under the direction of Matthew Woll, of the AFL Union Label Department, will include hundreds of exhibits, special features and demonstrations, and will be illustrated by unions, firms and associations with AFL contracts.

Leaders in Two Organizing Fields

Washington.—The AFL drive for 1,000,000 new members in 1950 in honor of Samuel Gompers, founder and first president, counts heavily for success on the campaign to organize the unorganized workers in the basic industries and in the unorganized office workers. Leading AFL forces in these fields are J. L. Rhodes (left), Atlanta, southern organizing director in states from Virginia to Texas; Paul R. Hutchings (center), president, and Vice President L. G. Nygren, Minneapolis, of the Office Employes International Union.

40,000,000 Non-Union Workers, Says Meany

Safest Period, Yet—400 Workers Died

Washington.—It was safer to work in manufacturing in the fourth quarter of 1949 than any time in 7 years, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

About 750,000 workers lost one or more days of work because of injuries on the job, the report said—about 7,700 below the previous 7 months and 100,000 below the same period of 1948.

The report about 400 workers were killed and some 4,700 permanently crippled.

The injured workers lost 1,- 370,000 man-days and about $16,000,000 in wages, in addition to doctor bills, hospital costs and future losses from crippling injuries.

NLRB Orders Boss Give Wage Data

Washington.—The National Labor Relations Board ruled that an employer must furnish a labor union full information regarding merit ratings of employes and pay scales based on the ratings, regardless of any provision in a contract with the union that the employer complete power to make merit ratings and grant raises without consulting the union.

The board said that the union was entitled to this information so that it could intelligently bargain on the contract. It held, however, that the union had no right to insist that it be consulted in such cases when it agreed in advance to the method giving the employer the right to determine merit ratings and grant individual increases based on them.

The ruling came in a case brought by Lodge No. 1600 of the International Association of Machinists against the General Controls Company of Glendale, Calif.

Although the board held that the company was certainly under no contract, to refuse to consult the union before granting merit increases, it found the company guilty of failing to bargain collectively by refusing to give the union the following data:

"The name, classification, rate of pay and merit rating score of each employee" and full information as to "increases or decreases in rates of pay, bonuses or other benefits, the amount received and the date on which the increase or bonus became effective."

"All the information," the opinion said, "is necessary for the union to function effectively to police the existing contract, and in order for it intelligently to bargain with respect to future contracts. Without such information, the union would be seriously hampered.

"Under these circumstances, we have consistently held that withholding this type of information, when requested, violates the law."

Ban Stands

Washington.—The Supreme Court refused the use of the mails by labor with a court ruling that hiring halls for seamen are now outlawed as illegal under the Taft-Hartley law.

Seamen's unions have declared that they will defy any attempt to abolish the hiring hall procedure in the two-day seamen's strike now in progress.

The AFL Maritime Trades Department's Federation of Labor, acting under the combined executive council of our present and past great leaders, plans to continue its work with renewed zeal within our fields to full effectiveness with the officers and organizers of the International Unions, State Federations of Labor, City Central Bodies and Local Unions.

We make this pledge in the firm conviction that 1,000,000 more members in the AFL will mean the enhancement of the dignity of labor, the improvement of the standard of living of the workers, and the strengthening of democratic ideals throughout the world and that, by thus helping to give greater strength to labor, the cause for which Gompers lived and labored will be stood for, we will render the greatest tribute possible to the memory of Samuel Gompers."

The conference of organizers followed a series of state-wide rallies held by leaders of the movement in labor. More of these rallies are planned for the coming months in order to spread out among city central and state bodies the growing momentum through the summer.

Alex Rose Picked To Head Hatters

New York—Alex Rose, secretary and treasurer of the New York Joint Board of the AFL Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union, was unanimously elected by the executive board as the union's president to succeed Max Zaritsky.

His selection, to be ratified by the general convention next May, is a testament to election as opponents tend to disappear in time.

Action by the board of the union, which includes Rose as the fourth vice president, one of the oldest in the American labor movement, came at a 2-day session at the Hotel New Yorker. The board includes representatives of 30,000 employes in 2 fields, women's millinery, and fur hats.

Mr. Rose, a vice president of the international since 1937, has worked in life as a machine operator in the millinery branch of the trade. He is one of the leaders of the Liberal Party with the title of vice chairman. Mr. Rose is a close friend of United States Senator Herbert H. Lehman and is one of the comparatively few labor leaders invited to call at the White House during both the late President Roosevelt's and President Truman's administration.

Mr. Rose is a vice president of the American Labor party, originally designed to keep Communists out from which Mr. Rose withdrew when the Reds moved in. For the last 10 years Rose is also a member of the national executive committee of the AFL's political arm, Labor's League for Political Education.

Selected with Mr. Rose was Max Zaritsky, general manager of the joint board. They will replace Max Zaritsky, who has declined to accept, respectively international president and secretary-treasurer of the union. Zaritsky and Secretary-Treasurer Louis Shaffer, manager of the joint board; Abe Herskowitz, manager of the Cap and Millinery Department, and Louis Hill and in the state legislature," Mr. Meany said, "and who have been the tool at Danbury, Conn. All without opposition. Rose to make the choice unanimous.

Humphrey Wants Byrd Committee Killed as Waster of Federal Funds

Washington.—Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey is carrying his fight to the people to abolish the Congressional Joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures (the Byrd committee) to a radio audience.

Byrd, who parades as a proponent of economy, has been exposed in his practice what he preaches when he used funds for a junket to Europe, Senator Humphrey said.

Senator Humphrey told the Senate that the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 which created the Hoover and Byrd committee to the standing House and Senate committees on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, has not only duplicating the work of the Hoover Commission on Organization of the Executive Department, but also the regular congressional statistics are concerned, is duplicating the work of the Civil Service Commission and the Bureau of the Budget.

"It is in this spirit, therefore, that I oppose the existence of the Byrd committee. It is a violation of the intent and purpose of the Legislative Reorganization Act and is a brazen example of the continuance of unnecessary functions and duplication of services in a government agency."

Washington.—The nation's biggest union organizing drive reaching into all fields of industry is on.

AFL organizers left a 2-day conference here and are deployed all over the United States and Canada to seek 1,000,000 new AFL members in 1950.

The campaign was started by the 1949 AFL convention as one of the features of the birth of Samuel Gompers, founder and first president of the American Federation of Labor.

Winning the new members is linked to the AFL efforts to elect a liberal Congress that will enact social security, unemployment insurance, welfare measures and repeal the Taft-Hartley law to strengthen the American labor movement.

AFL organizers were spurred to their task by AFL President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, Harry O'Reilly, director of organizing, and Joseph Keenan, director of Labor's League for Political Action.

All of these leaders outlined the objective and strategy, organizers from the AFL's 108 international unions and 1,000 state federations of Labor, City Central Bodies and Local Unions.

They make this pledge in the firm conviction that 1,000,000 more members in the AFL will mean the enhancement of the dignity of labor, the improvement of the standard of living of the workers, and the strengthening of democratic ideals throughout the world and that, by thus helping to give greater strength to labor, the cause for which Gompers lived and labored will be stood for, we will render the greatest tribute possible to the memory of Samuel Gompers."

The conference of organizers followed a series of state-wide rallies held by leaders of the movement in labor. More of these rallies are planned for the coming months in order to spread out among city central and state bodies the growing momentum through the summer.

Alex Rose Picked To Head Hatters

New York—Alex Rose, secretary and treasurer of the New York Joint Board of the AFL Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union, was unanimously elected by the executive board as the union's president to succeed Max Zaritsky.

His selection, to be ratified by the general convention next May, is a testament to election as opponents tend to disappear in time.

Action by the board of the union, which includes Rose as the fourth vice president, one of the oldest in the American labor movement, came at a 2-day session at the Hotel New Yorker. The board includes representatives of 30,000 employes in 2 fields, women's millinery, and fur hats.

Mr. Rose, a vice president of the international since 1937, has worked in life as a machine operator in the millinery branch of the trade. He is one of the leaders of the Liberal Party with the title of vice chairman. Mr. Rose is a close friend of United States Senator Herbert H. Lehman and is one of the comparatively few labor leaders invited to call at the White House during both the late President Roosevelt's and President Truman's administration.

Mr. Rose is a vice president of the American Labor party, originally designed to keep Communists out from which Mr. Rose withdrew when the Reds moved in. For the last 10 years Rose is also a member of the national executive committee of the AFL's political arm, Labor's League for Political Education.

Selected with Mr. Rose was Max Zaritsky, general manager of the joint board. They will replace Max Zaritsky, who has declined to accept, respectively international president and secretary-treasurer of the union. Zaritsky and Secretary-Treasurer Louis Shaffer, manager of the joint board; Abe Herskowitz, manager of the Cap and Millinery Department, and Louis Hill and in the state legislatures," Mr. Meany said, "and who have been the tool at Danbury, Conn. All without opposition. Rose to make the choice unanimous.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains information of value and benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

SUPPLEMENT

WILLIAM GREEN, *President* — WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1950 — GEORGE MEANY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Samuel Gompers said:

When I have done my work, whatever it may be, if the world will remember me for five minutes after I am gone and say "He tried to be of service to his fellows in life," I shall be content.

ICFTU Fights Red Arms Strikes

Free Labor Will Deliver Military Supplies In Europe

Washington.—The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions will deliver American military supplies to the European democracies through, over and around Communist strikes and blockades in opposition.

That was the pledge of J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general of the 3-month-old free world labor organization, in a speech on his first visit here in his official capacity.

He was honored at a luncheon given by the American Federation of Labor, Congress of Industrial Organizations, and attended by the Railway Labor Executives Association; International Association of Machinists; United Mine Workers, U. S. labor officials and leaders of democratic labor movements in Finland, Cuba, Spain and Belgium.

"The same powers which tried to sabotage the European Recovery Program are now trying to sabotage the delivery of arms under the Atlantic Treaty," Mr. Oldenbroek said.

"We accept the Atlantic Pact as the only way the western European democracies can defend themselves. I predict the Communists will be the losers; we will see to it that there will be a partial but a complete defeat."

Under the Atlantic Treaty, the United States agreed to furnish arms and military supplies to the other signatories to help them defend themselves against the threat of Russian aggression. The first shipments have been made. Communist-controlled dockworkers and other unions have staged demonstration strikes in opposition to delivery of these supplies.

Widespread Communist sabotage is feared in France and Italy when U. S. arms shipments arrive. Some fighter and head-breaking has already occurred in ports where Communists are pursuing their disruptive tactics. Of this, Mr. Oldenbroek said:

"It is the only answer and we're going to give it."

AFL Vice President George M. Harrison recently made a broadcast for the Voice of America, appealing to free workers of Europe not to join in the Communist work stoppages.

Mr. Oldenbroek said that the new international and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) are working as one in the field of international relations.

AFL President William Green and Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers and chairman of the CIO committee on international relations, pledged united support of the free trade union labor movement to Mr. Oldenbroek.

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany presided at the affair. Others in attendance included Co-Presidents Matthew Woll, Harrison, W. C. Doherty of AFL International Representative George P. Delaney; Serafino Romualdi, secretary of the Inter-American Confederation of Workers; Irving Brown, AFL representative in Europe; H. W. Fraser, president of the Order of Railway Conductors and the Railway Labor Executives' Association; A. J. Lyon, executive secretary of the Railway Labor Executives' Association; Bert Jewell, labor advisor to the Economic Cooperation Administration; Assistant Secretary of Labor Philip Kaiser.

22 More Stations Carry Newscasts Of Frank Edwards

Washington.—Twenty-two additional stations have been added to carry the news broadcasts of Frank Edwards, AFL commentator, commencing night in Washington at 10 p.m.

They are in 14 states and raise the total stations to 175 over which Edwards' progressive and liberal reporting can now be heard. Six of the stations were to begin the broadcasts April 3.

M-W-F means Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Following are the new stations:

Arizona—Bisbee, KSUN, 10:15 p.m., M-W-F; Phoenix, KOYC, 11 p.m., M-W-F; Tucson, KTUC, 10:15 p.m., M-W-F.

Colorado—Grand junction, KFXJ, 8 p.m., M-W-F (as of 4/3).

Florida—St. Petersburg, WTSP, 10 p.m., M-W-F; Jacksonville, WJHP, 10 p.m., M-W-F; Lakeland, WONN, 10 p.m., M-W-F; Winter Haven, WSIR, 10 p.m., M-W-F.

Georgia—Brunswick, WMOG 10 p.m., M-W-F.

Idaho—Pocatello, KEYY, 8 p.m., M-W-F; Boise-Nampa, KFXD, 10 p.m., M-W-F.

Louisiana—Houma, KCIL, 9 p.m., M-W-F.

Michigan—Flint, WBBC, 10 p.m., M-W-F.

Montana—Great Falls, KORK, 8 p.m., M-W (as of 4/3). Third day still open.

North Carolina — Greensboro, WUBG, 10 p.m., M-W-F; Rocky Mount, WCBT, 10 p.m., M-W-F.

North Dakota—Minot-Mandan, KCCU, 9 p.m., M-W-F.

Oregon—Salem, the veteran's French labor leader was honored by AFL officials.

Observers said that Mr. Blum's political fame rests chiefly on the improvement of the wage earners' lot through collective bargaining, paid holidays and the 40-hour week during his premiership of France in 1936. He was a bitter foe of the Communists.

Washington — Spokane, KNEW, 10:15 p.m., M-W-F (as of 4/3).

Meany Given Lifetime Card

Chicago.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany is presented with gold honorary membership card in Plumbers Local Union 130 at ceremony in connection with dinner at trade union division of the Chicago Federation of Labor. L. to r. are President Reuben G. Soderstrom of Illinois State Federation of Labor; Mr. Meany; President Stephen M. Bailey of Local 130, Chicago; Secretary-Treasurer Walter J. Pichke, Local 130; President William Hogan of Local 2 and past president of the New York State Federation of Labor.

AFL Protests At Peru Killing Of Labor Leader

Washington—The ALF International Labor Relations Committee protested the assassination of Apra Party's governmental secret police chief Negreiros, secretary of organization of the Peruvian labor confederation of Labor.

Following is the text of the committee statement:

We learned with profound dismay of the violent death of Luis Negreiros, secretary of organization of the Peruvian Confederation of Labor, who was murdered in the streets of Lima, Peru, on the evening of March 24, at the hands of unknown assailants.

Luis Negreiros, following the events of October 1948, when Peru became about the arrest of virtually the entire leadership of the Peruvian democratic labor movement and the closing of all the union headquarters, took up the underground leadership of the trade union movement. He acted firmly and courageously, unconcerned with the fact that the military government had put a price on his head. He succeeded in keeping together the rank and file of the democratic labor movement organized under the banner of the Peruvian Confederation of Labor—affiliates with the Inter-American Confederation of Workers and the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions—and defeated the combined attempts of the Communists and the military government to infiltrate and take over.

The day before Luis Negreiros was assassinated the military tribunal had acquitted and set free the president of the Peruvian Confederation of Labor, Arturo Sabroso Montoya, a number of other trade union leaders, who had been kept in jail for 18 months on charges of rebellion in the Callao revolt of October 1948. The action of the military tribunal was interpreted as a sign that the innocence of the Peruvian Confederation of Labor was no longer to be questioned and that the leaders who had remained underground now could come out in the open and resume their legitimate activities without hindrance on the part of the police.

Thus Luis Negreiros appeared in the streets of Lima on his way to a meeting with other union leaders to discuss ways and means to resume the normal activities of the Confederation of Labor. But as soon as his presence was noticed by the police he was surrounded and shot to death on the worn out pretext, so familiar to the police of dictatorial countries, that he was "resisting arrest."

The American Federation of Labor raises its voice in strong protest against this cowardly murder committed by the Fascist-minded military dictatorship of Peru.

We extend to our brothers and sisters of Peru who are mourning with the family of Luis Negreiros the deepest sympathy and condolence, and renew to them the assurance that we shall continue our utmost efforts in the defense of trade union and human rights which they are threatened by the ruthless regimes of dictators.

GREEN MOURNS DEATH OF BLUM

Washington.—AFL President William Green expressed sorrow at the death of Leon Blum, 78, still-open premier of France, veteran socialist leader and longtime friend of the American Federation of Labor. Mr. Blum died in Paris on March 30.

During his last visit to Washington in 1946, the veteran French labor leader was honored by AFL officials.

Observers said that Mr. Blum's political fame rests chiefly on the improvement of the wage earners' lot through collective bargaining, paid holidays and the 40-hour week during his premiership of France in 1936. He was a bitter foe of the Communists.

Dignitaries Honor McFetridge

Chicago.—State and municipal officials and AFL leaders honored William L. McFetridge, president of the AFL Building Service Employes International Union, at a dinner celebrating his election as 13th AFL vice president. Shown in this group, front row, l. to r., are John S. Boyle, state's attorney; Cook County; Mr. McFetridge; Governor Adlai Stevenson; Mayor Martin H. Kennelly of Chicago and President William A. Lee of the Chicago Federation of Labor.

New International Bids For Free Labor In Asia, Africa, Behind Iron Curtain

Washington.—The strongest effort in world history to unite free labor of all nations is underway.

This was revealed by J. H. Oldenbroek, secretary-general of the 3-months-old International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, on his first official visit to the United States.

The campaign is planned for at least 3 years and will reach Asia, Africa, the Near and Middle East, South America and countries behind the Iron Curtain. These are some of the steps already authorized:

1. Dispatch of a mission to the Far East and Southeast Asia for a 6-month investigation of social and trade union conditions.

2. Establishment in that part of the world a training college for trade unionists, to operate for 3 years at least.

3. Opening of well-staffed offices in New York and Geneva to keep in touch with the United Nations; International Labor Organization, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other world bodies.

4. Active delivery of American arms to western European democracies with the help of working agreements with International Transport Workers' Federation and other labor organizations.

5. Carry the message of free democratic labor behind the Iron Curtain.

The non-Communist people of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania are not Communist, they are just under an iron heel," Mr. Oldenbroek said.

Mr. Oldenbroek emphasized that all of these things will be carried out without imposing anything on peoples nationally.

"We are not imposing anything," he said. "We will assist them so that they can help themselves and get necessary influence in public life.

"We want to see conditions improve as quickly as it can be done in each country."

Mr. Oldenbroek said the new confederation is prepared to work with governments.

"But we are also prepared to criticize governments," he said. "That distinguishes us from the World Federation of Trade Unions which is prepared to criticize nothing governments which don't take orders from Moscow.

"We commend the American government for the European Recovery Program and Atlantic Pact. We criticize the American government when it tries to establish relations with Franco Spain."

The new confederation speaks for more than 50,000,000 workers in 53 nations, including the AFL and CIO in the United States. It was established by free trade unions to oppose the Communist World Federation of Trade Unions.

STOP UNEMPLOYMENT AT THE SOURCE

LOCAL FULL EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE — ACTION TO CREATE JOBS

Examine local needs & resources
Develop measures to meet needs
Get new customers, new products, new uses for old products
Bring in new industries
Get financing for:
New equipment, working capital, plant expansion, new business
Work with employment service:
Develop jobs, find needed skills, offer job training
Start needed public works & service lines (clearance, schools, roads, medical care, housing)

AFL WON 169 UNION ELECTIONS.

Washington. — AFL unions won 169 collective bargaining elections in February, the National Labor Relations Board reported.

This was 67 percent of the 251 elections in which AFL unions took part. The AFL accounted for 41 percent of all union victories during the month.

The AFL took part in and won more elections than the CIO and independent unions (52) combined.

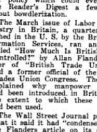
Haggerty Named University Regent

San Francisco.—C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor, was appointed to the board of regents of the University of California by Governor Warren.

Haggerty succeeded Herbert Fleishhacker, San Francisco financier, whose term had expired.

Warren said that Haggerty is the first representative of organized labor to be named to the board of regents in the history of the university. The appointment is for a term of 16 years.

The federation secretary has served as a member of the State Board of Education since June 20, 1945. He had previously served as a member of



C. J. Haggerty

the State Personnel Board, being appointed to that position by Governor Culbert Olson.

One Answer to Why Join a Union

March 15, 1950

Mr. [illegible]
[illegible]

Dear [illegible]:

You will, no doubt, be surprised to hear from me so soon after the last letter I wrote you [illegible], but I feel there are several reasons why I should write now.

Do you know, I was not a member of the Union when I left [illegible] due to the fact that I firmly believed the Company had our best interests at heart and that the Union only antagonized the Company. I was very wrong, and foolish I was! Without the Union, the Employees of [illegible] Companies are at the mercy of a malicious, money-hungry Combine. The reasons I make this statement are as follows:

1. I was terminated my employment with the Company on March 15, the day after my quitting the Union.

2. I have been informed [illegible] Industrial Relations is now going to pay Vacation Pay on a monthly basis, instead of the back-pay as it is at present. This is a concession which the Union has been trying to get for years, but which the Company pays at least the minimum wage the Government cannot touch them. Therefore, the Government says the Company can pay one driver 6 cents per mile and another one 3 cents per mile and the Government cannot interfere. So, after the Company encouraging me to stay out of the Union by "Pep" talks, they turned around when I quit the Union, employment and said no more pay for vacations. Now, after the Union and the Company wish to pay it to us, and as I was not a Union member, the Union could not demand it for me.

I think even a fool should see from my case, how unreliable this Company can be if they see any chance to make a dollar!

So please try to forgive me, [illegible] resistance to the Union and its ideals. I've learned my lesson the hard way! We are doing right in trying to put forward the Union 5% it is the only hope of security the Employees of the [illegible] have.

Hoping this letter will help to restore some of the "old feeling" we had for each other in 1940.

I remain,

Your friend,

[illegible]

Detroit.—The above letter is a reproduction of the original in the possession of Roger E. Burgess, editor of the "Motorman, Conductor and Motor Coach Operator," publication of the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes. It is one more reason why American wage earners should join the American Federation of Labor Now.

Paper Omits Fact To Smear British

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent AFL News Service.

New York.—Several months ago, the American Federation of Labor issued a statement which called for full support of the British government in its then economic crisis.

The AFL manifesto made the point that the voices in America which were most vociferous in British Labor government were the very same voices which were for the Taft-Hartley law and other antilabor legislation.

A weekend visit of this AFL thesis is to be found in a little-noticed debate between the Wall Street Journal and the British Embassy. To call this a "debate" is high flattery, because the Wall Street Journal became the willing dupe of misrepresentation. A condensation job of a British article could even teach the Reader's Digest a few tricks about bowdlerization.

The March issue of Labor and Industry in Britain, a quarterly published in the U. S. by the British Information Services, ran an article called "How Much Is British Labor Controlled?" by Allan Flanders, author of "British Trade Unionism" and a former official of the British Trades Union Congress. The article explained why manpower controls had been introduced in Britain and the extent to which these controls had been used.

The Wall Street Journal published what it said it had "condensed" from the Flanders article on its editorial page March 8, and then proceeded to use the article as the basis for an attack on the British Labor government.

But in its "condensation," the Wall Street Journal omitted two highly significant sentences. The one omission was the disclosure that "the most severe" control had been lifted February 1. This power barred workers in agriculture and coal mining from seeking employment outside these two industries without government permission.

The second omission came in a passage which discussed the continuation of Britain's wartime manpower direction and which disclosed that "during the past 18 months not a single case has been brought."

Omission of these sentences, of course, gives a different impression entirely to the reader which, presumably, is what the Wall Street Journal intended. In each case, the labor attaché at the British Embassy, A. McD. Gordon, protested these curious omissions in the following letter, declaring:

"Had these two items, neither of them lengthy and appearing only after omissions from the original article, been included in your condensation, and thus presented in full, I am sure you will agree that your readers would have of some significance in forming a judgment on the question of whether or not labor is in effect 'directed' in Britain today."

Remember Gompers. Buy stamps!

Farmers Union Urges Repeal Of Taft-Hartley

Denver, Colo.—The National Farmers Union adopted a 1950-51 program which included a call to repeal the Taft-Hartley law as "the first step" to restore sound labor relations.

The comprehensive agricultural organization, with whom the AFL and other labor groups work in harmony, condemned many of the legislative, social and economic objectives reported by the 81st Congress.

In its labor plank, the National Farmers Union declared:

"Just as the income of farmers must be stabilized at parity standards in the national interest, so must labor be stabilized.

"Only if the buying power of these 2 great mass groups of the nation [illegible] is protected can the nation expect to be protected in times of peace.

The organization called for repeal of Taft-Hartley, strengthening of the old Wagner Act, extension of the wage-hour law to farm labor and other unfinded groups.

In other planks, the National Farmers Union demanded restraints on the growth of monopoly, favored federal aid to education, adoption of national health insurance, expansion of social security, and opposition to all efforts to wreck cooperatives.

AFL Attacks Task Of Creating Jobs Now for 2 Million

Washington.—The American Federation of Labor, refusing to wait longer for government dilly-dallying over unemployment, has urged its local unions to foster community Full Employment Committees to help find jobs for 2,000,000 workers immediately.

The unemployment crisis and how local committees can step into the breach to create new jobs is described in the current issue of the AFL Labor Monthly Survey.

Unemployment, creeping slowly upward, has reached proportions which call for action.

That for its 1950, 2,000,000 more workers have been unemployed than in the corresponding months of 1947 and 1948. The number of areas reporting 12 percent or more of their labor force out of work has risen from 59 in December, 1949, to 63 in January, 1950. In more than half the other important industrial centers from 7 to 12 percent of the labor force are unemployed, and a large part of this unemployment is seasonal.

These figures are disturbing because there is at present no prospect that business activity will increase enough in 1950 to restore "full employment." Meanwhile, new workers coming into the labor force increase the number out of work.

The federation feels it is imperative to check unemployment now.

If responsible groups act now, in those communities where a significant number cannot find work, it will be relatively possible to restore "full employment" within the next 12 months by creating useful jobs which will enrich community life.

But if unemployment is allowed to increase, it will be too late to stem the tide. We want to meet the problem now in a constructive way, and thus avoid the possibility of widespread unemployment, with huge outpourings of government funds for make-work and relief, and government controls.

The accompanying chart shows how communities are already organizing to solve their own unemployment problems. Listed at the right are a few of the many activities of Full Employment Committees which have been created jobs for hundreds of unemployed. These committees represent labor-management and other community groups.

Business in general in our country is healthy. The outlook is for continued high level business activity, but not for enough business expansion to absorb possible jobs for some slackening toward the end of the year.

This is the moment to start effectively to increase employment, before unemployment is rising today in the midst of prosperity. This is being done in taking over a million new jobs each year to give work to the new workers entering the labor force and those laid off by increasing productivity. Each year, consequently, we must expand enough each year to create two million new jobs for employment is to stay at maximum levels. In 1950, no such expansion is right. And this year we need at least 2,000,000 new jobs because 2,000,000 more are not expand enough last year.

The need for new jobs will require in 1950 an increase of 9% in the gross national product in consumers, business and government. The present rate of purchases of business plus those of government will add up to about last year. So the nation must depend on increased purchases by consumers of $10,000,000,000 to $12,000,000,000 more than in 1949—to provide business and employment to maximum levels. More consumer buying is necessary. That is one reason why the federation has repeatedly emphasized the need for large wage increases this year, and why it urges as large increases as much as possible without increasing prices. We make this point a added point: A new effort to create jobs is no time to raise prices unduly.

Every new job which supplies a need for more goods will help keep the worker's wage and thus adds new buying power. Each new job creates part of your town provide a factory worker, a hospital, nurse, supply, more health service—you are providing a job for a teacher, your community is better place to live. Companies also benefit from the new jobs since create productive jobs.

The job you create creates value, so that jobs pay for themselves, either in the value created by the firm total of all projects like these, plus increased business enough to restore business enough to restore "full employment."

Write your Central Labor Union to discuss forming a Full Employment Committee set up in your locality. Write your Congressmen and tell them to vote for measures that can be sent by the CLU to your locality. Labor's presence is important to represent workers' interests, suggested needed projects, safeguard against actions which would hurt the community.

In this nationwide task of restoring "full employment," local initiative is the mainspring. If in our local communities we sit on our hands and hope someone else will rescue us, we may expect the tide of unemployment to go on rising.